

FALL 2015



# FALL CRIME PREVENTION TIPS



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As the Fall season sets in, temperatures are dropping and the Sun is setting earlier each day. While we are all busy enjoying the weather, it is important to remember that this time of year is perfect cover for petty criminals.


Here are a few simple tips to help keep you from being a victim of theft:

 **Put on those lights!** Criminals don't like bright lights. A carefully placed floodlight on a motion sensor is an economical way to prevent people from lurking in shadows.

 **Lock those doors!** Most vehicle thefts are spontaneous events. If a thief is confronted with a locked door, it is likely he/she will move onto the next car.

 **Keep your valuables in the house!** You would not believe the amount of valuable electronics like laptops and GPS units left in unlocked cars! **LOCK YOUR CARS!!**

 **Where are your serial numbers?** When we solve a burglary, one of our priorities is returning property to the rightful owner; therefore, it is important to record serial numbers!

 **Don't be afraid to call the Police!** You know what is normal for your neighborhood and what is out of the ordinary. If you see any suspicious activities, don't hesitate to call 517-483-4600.

## HAVE A SAFE HALLOWEEN

In order to have a fun Halloween it is important to stay safe and aware



### Trick or Treating Tips

- ◆ Parents, teach your children to **never** run across the streets or cross the streets between parked cars.
- ◆ Always stay on the sidewalks and **WALK**, not run.
- ◆ Look both ways before crossing a crosswalk and make sure you have eye contact with the driver so they are aware of your presence.
- ◆ Visit **only** well-lit houses.
- ◆ Children under the age of 12 should not be alone without adult supervision.
- ◆ **BE VISIBLE!** Wearing something reflective or glowing will help drivers see you.
- ◆ If you are out on your own, have a friend join! You'll have more fun and be a lot safer.
- ◆ Before eating your treats, make sure they are safe to eat. Any opened candy or cooked food should be checked!
- ◆ Have a plan for your route and stay in your neighborhood.
- ◆ **Remember, trick-or-treating is on October 31st, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm!**



Make sure your boys and ghouls get a Lansing Police Department Reflective Halloween bag filled with McGruff Safety Fun!!

LPD Headquarters (120 W. Michigan Avenue) or

LPD Operations Center (5815 Wise Road)

Questions? Call 517-483-4469



Community Service Unit, Lansing Police Department, 120 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 517-483-6812



## BURN PERMITS

Fall is a great time to enjoy the cooler weather with a warm fire!! Here are some things you need to know before having a fire for recreation or for fall clean-up!

- You **must** acquire a burn permit through the Lansing Fire Department before having a recreational fire on your property.
- Burn permits are \$50\*
- Burning is **only** allowed Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 5 p.m.—12 a.m. With the exception of certain holidays during the week.
- **Burning of building material or non-wood items is STRICTLY PROHIBITED as well as the burning of brush, leaves, grass or trash.**
- The fire must be continuously attended with a water source readily available.
- Fires in a ground pit must be 25 ft. from any structure, and fires in approved containers must be 15 ft. from any structure.



*\*The Lansing Fire Department has the right to revoke any permit if they feel the fire is in violation of the above restrictions and/or fire code.*

### For Questions Call:

Lansing Fire Department Fire Marshall at  
**517-483-4087 or 517-483-4200**

**This can be completed by one of three ways: online, mail or in person:**

**Online:** Visit [www.lansingmi.gov/burnpermit](http://www.lansingmi.gov/burnpermit) to complete an application and pay online

**Mail:** You can mail in completed and signed application form with \$50 to **Fire Marshal Office 316 N. Capital Ave. Ste. C-2, Lansing, MI 48933**. Check or money order can be made payable to City of Lansing.

**In person:** Visit the Fire Marshall office on weekdays from 8a.m. - 4p.m.

## ORGANIZE A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

By getting to know your neighbors and forming connections, you make your community safer. You do this by learning to recognize what is normal and what is not. This can help you in protecting your property and family, as well as that of your neighbors. Watch groups are also great social gatherings and may be used to form networks to help each other with home improvement projects which can raise property values. This is also a great forum to discuss concerns and share ideas.

Close friendships have been formed between members of a watch program.

If you would like to learn more about how to improve your community with Neighborhood Watch, contact the Lansing Police Department's Community Service Officer at 517-483-4469 or e-mail [lpdcsu@lansingmi.gov](mailto:lpdcsu@lansingmi.gov). The Community Service Officer can guide you on how to organize an initial meeting to introduce and begin organizing a program with your neighbors.



**How will you help YOUR community?**



Community Service Unit, Lansing Police Department, 120 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 517-483-6812



## Prepare for Extreme Weather

It's that time of year where extreme weather will hit. Here is what you need to know to help prepare for it:

- ◆ While the City is cleaning up, the debris from the fallen tree will be left on your property in order to move onto other houses.
- ◆ You may contact private refuse removal services or private tree removal to assist you in removing debris.
- ◆ Before you clean up the debris, please wait until all electric lines are repaired.



### EMERGENCY PLAN

During a disaster, police and firefighters may be delayed for hours and sometimes days. Every family has their unique needs and is important to prepare for disasters so these needs can be met. To do so, it is recommended that you create an Emergency Plan. The Emergency Plan can be simple and should be practiced with your family.

Here are some key components for creating your **Emergency Plan**.

- Have important contact and health information together in one spot to save time locating it when a disaster hits.
- Stock up on supplies that will be needed during a disaster. Supply shortages can happen during a disaster and you may not be able to travel to reach more. Know what you have and what your family needs.
- ◆ Create questions to help you build your Emergency Plan. Write down your answers and practice them with your family.
- ◆ Go online to [www.michigan.gov/michiganprepares](http://www.michigan.gov/michiganprepares) to access a template for your Emergency Plan.

- ◆ When seeing any downed lines, it is important to stay **25 feet** away and to contact BWL!!
- ◆ Be prepared for any power outages. Have an Emergency kit available to use. Go to [www.redcross.org/prepare/location/home-family/](http://www.redcross.org/prepare/location/home-family/)



#### BWL CONTACT NUMBERS

Power, Downed Line or Streetlight Out

**877-295-5001**

Water or Stream Emergency

**517-702-6490**

#### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Police & Fire Emergency	911
Police (Non-Emergency)	483-4600
Fire (Non-Emergency)	483-4200
Mayor's Office	483-4141
<b>Public Service:</b>	
Graffiti & Potholes	483-4161
Flooding & Sewer Backup	483-4161
Street Repair & Plowing	483-4161
Tree Limbs	483-4161
Garbage/Recycling	483-4400
Human Service Hotline	211
Neighborhood Watch	483-4469
Planning/N'Hood Development	483-4060
Animal Control	676-8370
Code Compliance	483-4361





# FALL CLEAN UP

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The temperature is getting colder and leaves are starting to drop! Let's keep our neighborhoods looking clean. Here's what you need know:

- ◆ Place materials at the curb on your normal collection day. To find out when that is, go to [www.lansingmi.gov/CARTScheduleMap](http://www.lansingmi.gov/CARTScheduleMap).
- ◆ Leaves, grass trimmings, tree trimmings and other organic waste will be picked up between April and November on a WEEKLY basis.

Residents are allowed to place as much material as they wish as long as it complies with the guidelines listed below:



## ◆ 1st Guideline

Materials must be placed in paper yard waste bags which are available in convenience stores and grocery stores. Bags over **30 lbs.** will **NOT** be collected. Materials placed in plastic bags will **NOT** be accepted.

## ◆ 2nd Guideline

Bundled brush and tree trimmings must be tied up/secured with string or twine (**NOT WIRE**). Please keep branches less than 4 feet in length and 2 inches in diameter.

It is important to maintain your property because it has been proven that taking care of smaller things will help prevent larger issues from occurring, i.e. if there are people are cutting through your lawn, putting up a fence will help keep unwanted guests out or perpetrators will see that you and your neighbors take care of your property and pay attention to what is going on around your home and in your neighborhood!

## LPD Volunteer Opportunities

Don't forget that there are several opportunities for you to give back and keep the community of Lansing a safe and friendly place to live! Visit the Neighborhood Watch page of our website for a volunteer application today! Some of these opportunities include:

- Handicap Parking Enforcement
- Property Pick-up
- River Trail Patrol
- Front Desk Volunteers
- Lansing School Watch
- Victim Advocates



Please remember to follow the Lansing Police Department on Facebook and Twitter!



[www.Facebook.com/lansingpolicedepartment](http://www.Facebook.com/lansingpolicedepartment)



[@LansingPolice](https://twitter.com/LansingPolice)



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